

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 /030 W

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P 172230Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 421

UNCLAS BRASILIA 5924

FOR CU/ARA

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC

SUBJECT: ITAMARATY PROJECT ON INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL

REFS: 1. BRASILIA 8745; 2. BRASILIA 3419; 3. BRASILIA 5706;

4. STATE 136288

1. AT CEE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING THIS WEEK WITH MINISTER PAULO COTRIM, HEAD OF ITAMARATY'S COMMUNICATIONS AND DOCUMENTATION DEPARTMENT, IT WAS AGREED TO POSTPONE PLANNED PLACEMENT OF THE TWO BRAZILIANS FROM SEPTEMBER, 1975 TO JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 1976 TO ENABLE THE CANDIDATES TO GET THEIR ENGLISH UP TO ACCEPTABLE LEVELS.

2. WITH RESPECT TO KIND OF TRAINING SOUGHT, MINISTER COTRIM STRESSED THAT THEY ARE SEEKING ABOVE ALL "PRACTICAL AND NOT THEORETICAL" TRAINING. TO ASSIST IN SELECTION OF A TRAINING INSTITUTION, MINISTER COTRIM EXPLAINED THAT THE CANDIDATES WORK WITH A GROUP THAT IS INTERDISCIPLINARY SUCH AS ANALYSTS, ACCOUNTANTS, BUDGET SPECIALISTS, DOCUMENTATION SPECIALISTS, ENGINEERS, DIVISION HEADS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DOCUMENTATION, AND PROGRAMMERS. THUS, THEY HAVE TO BE PROFICIENT IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT, TECHNIQUES OF COORDINATION, AND IN FOLLOWING THE WORK OF EACH MAN. THEY SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SPECIAL FORMS DESIGN, FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF WORK (COST BENEFITS), AND SPECIFIC NEEDS IN STAFF TRAINING. MINISTER COTRIM STRONGLY UNDERSCORED AS BASIC THE NEED TO INCLUDE EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD OF ORGANIZATION AND METHOD (OM) IN THE CANDIDATES' TRAINING. THE COMPUTERS THE TWO CANDIDATES HAVE WORKED WITH SO FAR ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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BURROUGHS AND IBM. MINISTER COTRIM PROMISED MORE SPECIFIC

DETAILS BY NEXT WEEK SO AS TO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT BETTER IN
PLACEMENT OF THE TRAINEES. A TELEGRAM TO THE
DEPARTMENT WILL FOLLOW.

3. THE POST NOTES THAT THIS TRAINING REQUEST IS A DIRECT RESULT OF
DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO MINISTER COTRIM IN DECEMBER,
1974 (REFTEL 1). MINISTER COTRIM WAS SO PLEASED WITH HIS VISIT
WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS ENGAGED IN INFORMATION STORAGE AND
RETRIEVAL THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE TWO CANDIDATES VISIT
THEM AS WELL. THE POST CONCURS WITH THIS REQUEST AND WONDERS,
IN VIEW OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS NATURE OF THE CANDIDATES' WORK,
WHETHER THEY COULD BE PROGRAMMED OR TRAINED FURTHER AT THE
DEPARTMENT FOR A SHORT PERIOD EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER THEIR
REGULAR U.S. TRAINING.

4. CHARLES LA HOOD, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS MICROFILM EXPERT AND
PROFESSOR F.W. LANCASTER, BIBLIOGRAPHY AND DOCUMENTATION EXPERT
AND FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR IN BRAZIL, WILL BE IN BRASILIA NEXT WEEK
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 8TH BRAZILIAN CONGRESS OF LIBRARIANSHIP AND
DOCUMENTATION. EMBASSY AND MINISTER COTRIM WILL ALSO ASK THEIR
IDEAS AS TO PLACEMENT FOR TWO CANDIDATES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRASIL05924
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750248-0872
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750744/aaaabnaj.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BRASILIA 8745, 75 BRASILIA 3419, 75 BRASILIA 5706
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JAN 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITAMARATY PROJECT ON INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL
TAGS: OEXC, BR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006